



Prince of Wales Chamber of Commerce
Chamber POWER
178 Members as of 12/30/08

Volume 20, Issue 1, January 2009

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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From the President's Desk:

Wishes for a Very Happy and Prosperous New Year!!

I am pleased that I am sitting at my own desk and not

waiting at an airport for another flight to get me where I want to go! I hope that all of you are safely at your holiday destinations or you are happily warm and at home!

The Board met in December to adopt a budget for 2009 and to identify a program of work for the new year. This process will continue at our January meeting as the board takes some personal time to consider what the Chamber can do to make a difference to POW in these tough economic circumstances.

The Board has sent another invitation to our Governor in hopes she will agree to join us in April. Some of our preliminary thoughts for this occasion are included in this newsletter and we welcome your involvement in planning!

We have changed our regular meeting times for 2009 in order to accommodate the schedules of our directors. We will have our regular board meetings on the third Wednesdays of each month.

The 2009 Island Guide has been printed and should be floating toward Prince of Wales as you read this. See more details in the update section included.

Once again I want to express my appreciation to all of you who contributed to our 2008 Graduate Scholarships. The first term grade reports are arriving at the Chamber office and checks will be sent to the financial aid offices as soon as those good grades arrive. Ten awards were made in 2008.

I need news from our members to share in these monthly pages. If you have some tidbits you would like to share with the rest of our membership, please email them to me before the last days of the month and I will gladly include those items within these pages.

Remember Denise is gone til mid January!



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1. Website factoids for the month of **DECEMBER**

DECEMBER's web hits through DECEMBER 30TH were **288,409!** NOVEMBER'S total visits were **9,684**. Behind the **USA, Russian Federation, Germany and South Africa** were the countries with the most visitors. **Tuesday** was the most active day, and 5 to 6 PM was the most active time of day. **Google** was the top search engine used to find us with about 82 percent!

2. Chamber **POWER Sponsors for JANUARY Edition**—*The following businesses have paid for advertising in this spot and help the Chamber cover the costs of mailing and maintaining our email account and website. The editor shuffles the ad locations each month at random. To become a sponsor and have your information appear here each month or for certain months of the year, call the Chamber office. All 10 of this year's current sponsors are located here this month. We thank them for their support of this newsletter.*

First Bank – Craig / 907-826-3254 / fax 907-826-3910 / www.firstbankak.com / Lynnette Logan, manager. A full service community bank offering checking, savings and time deposit accounts; consumer, commercial, construction, and home loans; and online banking services. ATMs located at First Bank and at West Wind Plaza in Craig.

Black Bear Store—Klawock/907-755-2292 / Tim and Melissa Lacour, Owners/ Basic groceries. Fuel. Hunting and Fishing licenses and tackle.

Cleary Computer Services / Klawock / 907-755-2963 / cell 907-401-0200 / fax 907-755-2121 kcleary@clearycomputerservices.com / www.clearycomputerservices.com /P.O. Box 109, Klawock AK 99925-- Repairs, installations, Internet, networks and servers, Windows XP & Vista, navigation software. Security software and most replacement parts in stock. Pick-up, drop-off, or on-site service available. 25 years' experience; work guaranteed.

Douglass Home Builders / Coffman Cove / 907-329-2018 / fax 907-329-2019 / gwd2nd@yahoo.com / www.douglasshomebuilders.com -- General contractor specializing in remodeling, disaster restoration and new construction of both residential and commercial structures. 30 years-plus of experience with detail-focused approach to all aspects of work.

Tongass Business Center – Ketchikan / 618 Dock St. / Ketchikan, AK 99901 / 1-800-478-9015 907-225-9015 / Fax 907-225-9014 / Catalog now on-line at www.tbcenter.com. Office Equipment & Supply, Sharp Copiers & Faxes, Printing & Binding, Newsletters, Office Furniture.



Diversified Investments & Insurance –

Ketchikan/ 907-225-9805 / Angela C Salazar, CFP & Associates / Health & Life Insurance and Financial Advisory Services – Securities sold through KMS Financial Services, Inc. We have been serving Alaskan's needs since 1980.

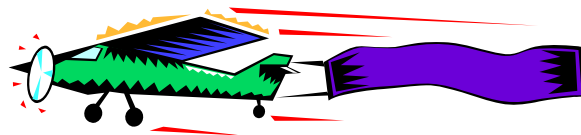
Coffman Cove Charters Coffman Cove / 907-329-2044 / 503-377-2505

/lee@coffmancovecharters.com /

www.coffmancovecharters.com Fish halibut, salmon and bottomfish with Capt. Lee Harper. Walk-ons are welcome, but reservations are encouraged. Call now to reserve your place in the boat. We'll see you in Coffman Cove this summer

Birds Eye View Bed & Breakfast Craig /

907-826-5987 / Cell 907-401-0383 / P.O. Box 383, Craig, AK 99921 Located in downtown Craig. Situated on a hill, one can take in the ocean's activity from the panoramic view. It is presently set up for singles or a couple. Alaskan decor, quiet atmosphere, non-smoking. Private bathroom, TV. Ample parking. Breakfast included. Sack lunch available on request.



3. Chamber Program of Work

AT the beginning of each year, the new Board of Directors review past short and long term goals. At the December work session, the directors reviewed the 2008 Program of Work in order to consider goals for continuing effort during 2009. The board will review the list during its January meeting and vote on final approval of the goals that will guide our efforts during the year.

4. JANUARY 2009 BOARD MEETING

Regular meetings of the Board of Directors of the Prince of Wales Chamber of Commerce will be held in 2009 on the 3rd Wednesday. The January meeting will be held on January 21st at 6:00 PM at the Chamber office in Klawock. There are public comment periods at each meeting which allow time for your ideas, suggestions, etc. Please join us.

5. ISLAND GRIND ON JANUARY 3RD: BEARFOOT IN THE SNOW

Saturday, January 3rd is the day, 7PM is the time, and the Craig High School auditorium is the place.

Buy tickets in advance at the Voyageur Bookstore or at the door! Admission cost is Adults \$5, Students \$3, Children ages 6 & under \$1, and Seniors \$3 (ages 60+). Remember that your ticket proceeds will help fund scholarships to send local youth to next summer's Fine Arts Camp in Sitka.

Volunteers to support the show are welcome. Entertainers interested in performing should call John Bruns or Sally Burch at 755-8899 for more information.

The Grind Themes for the rest of the season have been established:

February 7th or 14th: Beatles

March 7th: Emerald Grind

April 4th: Wizard of Oz

May 2nd: End of the Season Grind

6. BUSINESS and COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS AND TIDBITS

- Look toward False Island in Craig to see the structural steel going up frame by frame on the new **Silver Bay Seafood processing** facility. Snow and low temperatures have not held the crew hostage as they work daily on the giant erector set!
- **Black Bear Store** in Klawock is under new ownership. Congratulations to Tim and Melissa Lacour. Good luck and Best Wishes. Operating hours remain the same.
- The **Craig Healthcare Facility** was bid on December 29th. The apparent low bidder was McGraw Custom Construction.
- The **Hollis Community Council** purchased new highway-street signs and had them installed at each subdivision access road. The green and white signs were installed atop the stop signs at six access roads—Aurora, Chilkat Road, Hollis Anchorage, Canoe Pass Road, Harris River Road, Harris River West. Additional signs will be installed at a few cul-de-sac locations. Tim Lacour, DOT manager for the POW Island operations, had members of his crew install the signs for the community.
- **IFA** news: Ridership in December was about even with the 2007 stats. Through December 30th, the Hollis to Ketchikan run transported 2304 passengers and 456 vehicles. In December 2007, the passenger total for the whole month was 2638 passengers and 598 vehicles. The Ketchikan to Hollis run transported 2069 passengers and 426 vehicles compared to 2128 and 487 last year. (In 2007, the driver was free during December)
- Beginning January 1st through April 30th, the **driver will go free** with their vehicles on the IFA. The fuel surcharge is now at 10 percent and holding.
- The IFA was begun January 2, 2002. **Happy 7th Anniversary** to the IFA!

7. Welcome to our New Members.

The Chamber welcomes two new members, who were enrolled just prior to sending off the final proofs of the 2009 Island Guide. Thank you for your valuable support of our island community. You can get all the information about these and all our members by reviewing the Business Directory section of the 2009 Island Guide, coming your way soon.

Island Air Express, Scott Van Valin, Owner
Bear Valley Lodge, under new ownership, Larry Larson

8. Island Guide Update

Northland Services will be in receipt this week of the nearly 20,000 copies of the printed edition of the 2009 Island Guide. We should see this production at the office of the Chamber by the end of next week. Four of our businesses have ordered a couple boxes by UPS from the Portland printers, so they will get the first look at the 48 page production.

9. POWCAC meeting on January 27th

The Chamber will host the next meeting of the Prince of Wales Community Advisory Council, POWCAC, on Tuesday, January 27th. It will begin with a lunch at 12 noon, followed by the meeting at 1PM. It will be held at the Parish Hall at St. John's Catholic Church in Klawock. Please call the Chamber office if you plan to attend so we can prepare or arrange for enough food. Also please call if you want to supply an item on the menu for lunch!

10. A Spring Fling with the Governor??

The Prince of Wales Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, on behalf of our 178 members and the businesses on our island, invited Governor Palin to Prince of Wales Island in April of 2009, targeting April 23rd to the 26th. The Chamber is joined by the Prince of Wales Community

Advisory Council, POWCAC, representing our Island's 12 communities, native tribes, and associations, in issuing the invitation.

Preliminary plans for this event include a 50 year Statehood celebration involving presentations by school children, a reception for citizens who lived here in 1959, an historical journey of Prince of Wales Island through pictures of the past, and a banquet honoring recipients of "Everyday Hero Awards" chosen from and by each of our communities. These awards will honor individuals who have made a positive impact in their communities.

Our proposed theme for the 2009 banquet and related events: ***Island of Enchantment!***
Please contact the Chamber office or board members if you are interested in helping plan and carry out any of the proposed events.

11. ROPES... Rural Outreach Program for Entrepreneurs

ROPES is a program of the Alaska Department of Labor & Workforce Development & the Alaska Small Business Development Center.

A ROPES representative is coming to Prince of Wales Island in January and will be available for free one on one business counseling and workshops in the following areas:

- Basic Start-Up Information
- Business Computing (Word, Outlook, Excel)
- Financial Management
- Operations
- Customer Service and Tourism
- E-Commerce
- Energy Efficiency
- Hiring and Retaining Employees
- Legal Concepts, language and general info
- Low-budget marketing
- Tax considerations
- Working with banks
- Writing a business plan

If any of our business members are interested in scheduling a one hour session with Isaac, he will be here on January 14th and 15th. The ROPE toll free number is 1-800-478-7232. Isaac's number is 907-771-4161

